Healthy Kingston for Kids School and Community Garden Committee 2010-2013

Portfolio

School Gardens Support

- o Generated a Report on Barriers to Food Gardens on School Properties
- o Supported installment of 11 school gardens, including <u>meeting with school administrators</u>, <u>staff</u>, <u>volunteers</u>; surveying <u>school garden resource needs</u>; and helping to secure <u>outside funding for resources and supplies</u>
- o Generated a School Garden Impact Report
- o Worked with Kingston City School District to Adopt School Garden language in Health and Wellness Policy
- O Supported transition of gardens from schools that were closing to the new respective schools

Community Gardens

- o Assessed and mapped the suitability of community gardens in City parks
- o Reported on the interest of non-profit organizations to install gardens on their properties
- Completed an <u>Assessment of Need for Food Gardens in the Kingston City School District</u>, Based on Low Income Population Concentrations
- o Reviewed a <u>food desert survey</u>: a research project of HKK, Healthy Foods Task Force
- o Created a Community Garden Model Management Plan
- o Developed a Community Garden Site Score Tool
 - Created criteria to survey prospective community garden sites in the food deserts of Kingston
 - Established 10 criteria: Location, accessibility, soil condition, sun, fencing, visibility, lighting, slope, elevation, water
- o Produced a Kingston Food Garden Desert map
- o Created a <u>detailed map</u> of prospective community garden sites within Kingston's food deserts
- o Toured prospective community garden sites in Kingston
- o Identified an appropriate site in Kingston for a community garden
- Supported the installation of a <u>new community garden</u> (Thomas Chambers Garden) in front of a low-income housing complex
 - Identified a garden steward for the <u>Thomas Chambers Garden</u>
 - Created a <u>Garden Contract</u> and <u>Application</u>
 - Created a <u>management plan for the garden</u>
 - Outreached to on-site community members to solicit engagement
- Supported installment of 4 gardens at Kingston area non-profit organizations

Communications/Outreach

- o Created a Communication Plan
- Conducted a survey of existing school and community gardens in Kingston
- o Produced a Google map of school and community gardens in Kingston
- o Compiled a comprehensive yearly schedule of on-going garden grant opportunities
- o Hosted a Kingston area Gardens Potluck Celebration, which launched into additional planning and networking
 - Acknowledged and issues certificates of participation and recognition to 34 area food gardens
- o Created a garden network website <u>www.kingstoncitygardens.org</u>.
 - Includes: How to's, Best practices, Local resources, Networking, Case studies, Interactive Google garden map, Logo
- o Created a Kingston City Gardens Transition Plan for moving forward

<u>Policy</u>

o Resolution supporting community gardening passed by Common Council

Environmental Change

- o Branched off into an additional working group: Healthy Foods Task Force, which addressed <u>access to healthy</u> <u>foods</u> in Kingston through farm markets, corner stores, etc.
- O Coordinated with partners establishing other initiatives, such as the establishment of a <u>Farmer's Market in Midtown Kingston</u> at the former King's Inn site, and the <u>introduction of produce to neighborhood corner</u> stores: Rondout Market and Cedar Street Deli

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